

Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Regular Meeting ▪ 7:30 PM November 15, 2010 ▪ Room 1, Salem Town Offices ▪ Salem, Connecticut

1. Call to Order

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

Jennifer Lee joined at 7:55 PM.

2. Seating of Alternates

3. Changes to Agenda

We added a Vision Committee update.

4. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Larry/Joe

5. Communications

None

6. Public Comment

None

7. Reports

- Vision Committee Update: Frank Abetti and Sheryle Cassidy
 - The committee consists of 6 people, named on the cover letter.
 - The committee reviewed the visions of several towns and also facilitated a town-wide survey, which the EDC participated in.
 - Next steps:
 - The BOS will determine what the vision means, what authority does it have.
 - The Committee will go out to the various Boards and Commissions to share this with and get feedback within the next two months.
 - EDC feedback to Frank and Sheryle:
 - In the section, "Maintain and enhance the town's character." Add the phrase "and enhance."
 - We understand the need for buildings to be "attractive" but we recommend defining this and providing a mechanism for enforcing it.
- Board of Selectmen:
 - The State closed on the Bad Boyz Toys building and lot. Demolition will begin in the spring. We will have to move the water treatment facility from under the white building, which will require getting a permit from Planning and Zoning. It will go onto an existing slab.
 - The building committee provided an updated building plan to address specific critical issues. The BOS is currently reviewing the plan.
 - We are working with East Lyme on a water project. There will be a new water pipeline that comes close to Salem. This could provide water should we need it in the long-term future, or we could have the option to send water out.
- Liaison to Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z): Sean Reith and Gloria Fogarty
 - No representative present.
- Plan of Conservation and Development: Dana Abetti
 - POCD will present to P&Z on November 23.

Frank Sroka, Chair

Dana Abetti ▪ Joe Duncan ▪ Dave Sean Reith ▪ Larry Stevens

- We were not able to change the Municipal Land Use Plan to leave the Gadbois property open for possible, appropriate economic development.
- Local Business Ombudsperson: Larry Stevens
 - Larry is working to obtain maps of our trails to support Salem as a destination.

8. Old Business

- Economic Development Action Plan progress
 - EDC Plan Critical Initiatives:
 - Goal 1: Take Care of Local Businesses
 - Rejuvenate Four Corners: The businesses are improving their signs, they painted the building façade.
 - Goal 2: Foster New Economic Growth
 - Identify ED opportunities that fit within the Salem community
 - Process to identify and champion new business opportunities
 - Update:
 - The Commission reviewed a handout from Dana that shows DOL information about industries that are growing/declining. http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_204.htm We also reviewed the draft community fit screens (including a sample of how they would work), and the zoning map for Salem.
 - Maryanne should have status of available parcels of lands.
 - Dana will send Jennifer an email so she can fax the map and make it electronic jjdlee@sbcglobal.net
 - For the next meeting, the commission will bring ideas of businesses to run through the screens to test for a good fit for Salem.
 - Bring feedback on the screens, and test-run some ideas through the screens.
 - Bob will get top 20 taxpayers. robert.t.ross@comcast.net

9. New Business

None

10. Adjournment

M/S Dana/Joe 9:18 PM